

Council of Ministers

(1st Meeting)

20th February 2024**Part A (Non-Exempt)**

All members were present.

Deputy L.J. Farnham of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter, Chief Minister
 Connétable R. Vibert of St. Peter, Minister for Children and Education (for a time)
 Connétable A.N. Jehan of St. John, Minister for Infrastructure
 Deputy C.F. Labey of Grouville and St. Martin, Minister for International Development
 Deputy S.G. Luce of Grouville and St. Martin, Minister for the Environment
 Deputy K.F. Morel of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity, Minister for Sustainable Economic Development
 Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat of St. Helier North, Minister for Justice and Home Affairs
 Deputy I.J. Gorst of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter, Minister for External Relations (for a time)
 Deputy S.Y. Mézec of St. Helier South, Minister for Housing and Communities
 Deputy L.V. Feltham of St. Helier Central, Minister for Social Security
 Deputy E.M. Millar of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity, Minister for Treasury and Resources
 Deputy T.J.A. Binet of St. Saviour, Minister for Health and Social Services (for a time)

In attendance –

Connétable A.S. Crowcroft of St. Helier, Assistant Minister for Infrastructure
 Connétable M.K. Jackson of St. Brelade, Representative of the Comité des Connétables and Assistant Minister for the Environment
 Deputy R.J. Ward of St. Helier Central, Assistant Minister for Children and Education
 Deputy C.S. Alves of St. Helier Central, Assistant Chief Minister and Assistant Minister for Housing and Communities
 Deputy M.R. Scott of St. Brelade, Assistant Minister for Sustainable Economic Development
 Deputy R.E. Binet of Grouville and St. Martin, Assistant Minister for Health and Social Services
 Deputy M.R. Ferey of St. Saviour, Assistant Minister for Children and Education
 Deputy B. Ward of St. Clement, Assistant Minister for Health and Social Services
 Dr. A. McLaughlin, Interim Chief Executive and Head of the Public Service, Government of Jersey
 M.H. Temple, K.C., H.M. Attorney General
 L.-M. Hart, Greffier of the States
 R. Bell, Treasurer of the States and Assistant Chief Executive Officer
 T. Walker, Assistant Chief Executive Officer

R. Summersgill, Comptroller of Revenue, Treasury and Exchequer (for item B3 only)
K. Nutt, Group Director, Office of the Chief Executive (for part of items A3 and B4 - B5 only)
P. Wylie, Group Director of Policy, Strategic Policy, Planning and Performance Department
B. Davis, Manager, Tax Policy and Technical, Treasury and Exchequer (for item B3 only)
P. Bradbury, Head of Ministerial Office
S. Youd, Executive Support, Chief Minister's Department
T. Mourant, Private Secretary
B. Markwell Sales, Business and Governance Officer
K.M. Larbalestier, Principal Secretariat Officer, Specialist Secretariat, States Greffe
C. Fearn, Assistant Secretariat Officer, Specialist Secretariat, States Greffe

Note: The Minutes of this meeting comprise Parts A and B.

- Welcome. A1. Deputy L.J. Farnham of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter, Chief Minister, welcomed all present to the first meeting of the Council as newly constituted.
- Declarations of interest. A2. No declarations of interest were received in connexion with any item that was due for discussion at the current meeting.
- Forthcoming business. A3. The Council discussed the following items of public business, which were scheduled to be debated by the States Assembly at the meeting on 27th February 2024 –

Cabinet Office Expenditure Savings (P.8/2024)

Lodged by Deputy M.B. Andrews of St. Helier North. The Council agreed that a comment should be prepared to the effect that work was already underway to review the services that were currently amalgamated under the Cabinet Office.

The point was made that the current composition of the Cabinet Office did not align with the recommendations of the Democratic Accountability and Governance Sub-Committee and that the original intention had been to create a structure which would drive forward Ministerial priorities. The Interim Chief Executive undertook to share details of proposed savings plans for the Cabinet Office. The Head of Ministerial Offices highlighted the potential impact of the debate on staff, but suggested that it might also provide an opportunity to demonstrate support for the work being undertaken by officers; and

Ceasefire in Gaza (P.7/2024)

Lodged by Deputy M. Tadier of St. Brelade. Deputy I.J. Gorst of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter, Minister for External Relations, acknowledged that the subject was divisive and that opinions would differ within the Council. However, he emphasised that in developing an Amendment, his intention was to endeavour to maintain community cohesion in the Island, whilst simultaneously recognising the constitutional position with the United Kingdom.